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RUSSELL CROWE LIGHTENS UP

In 'The Nice Guys,' the actor shows his comedy chops. 20-21

Listen to Bob Dylan all day long tomorrow. 23

What should we make of the Phillies this season? 26-27

CALL ME WISHMAKER

Simonetta Lein grants wishes posted on her 'Wishwall' at the Italian Market Festival. 8

MARIA STEFANOVA YOUNG

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3 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

AFGHAN TALIBAN LEADER KILLED IN DRONE STRIKE, AFGHANS SAY

1 The United States has killed the leader of the Afghan Taliban in an air strike in a remote border area just inside Pakistan, Afghanistan said on Sunday, in an attack likely to dash any immediate prospect for peace talks. The death of Mullah Akhtar Mansour could trigger a battle for succession and deepen fractures that emerged in the insurgent movement after the death of its founder, Mullah Mohammad Omar, was confirmed last year, more than two years after he died. The strike, which U.S. officials said was authorised by President Barack Obama and included multiple drones, showed the United States was prepared to go after the Taliban leadership in Pakistan. REUTERS

AUSTRALIAN CLIMBER DIES WHILE DESCENDING FROM EVEREST SUMMIT

2 A 34-year-old Australian woman has died while descending from the summit of Mount Everest, local officials in Kathmandu said on Sunday, the second death on the world's highest mountain in as many days. The death of Maria Strydom on Saturday was also confirmed by Monash University in Melbourne, where she worked as a lecturer. Officials in Nepal said efforts were being made to take her body down from the mountain. Two Indian climbers went missing on the mountain on Saturday in the high slopes known as "death zone," said Wangchu Sherpa of the Trekking Camp Nepal company. The death of the Australian woman was the second on Everest this year and could hit mountaineering in Nepal.

REUTERS

SOLAR PLANE LANDS IN DAYTON, OHIO, ON ROUND-THE-WORLD FLIGHT

3 An experimental airplane powered solely by energy from the sun landed in Ohio on Saturday night on the latest leg of its historic bid by pilots and developers to fly around the globe without a drop of fuel. The single-seat Solar Impulse 2 aircraft arrived in Dayton shortly before 10 p.m. local time, some 17 hours after leaving Phoenix Goodyear Airport, the project team said on its official Twitter page. "People told the Wright Brothers & us what we wanted to achieve was impossible," said Bertrand Piccard after landing. "They were wrong!" The locale was of special significance to the pilots, as the home base to aviation pioneers Orville and Wilbur Wright.

REUTERS

GETTY IMAGES

BOLARIS' WEATHER WATCH: HOLIDAY WEEKEND ... BUST OR BEAUTY?

Residents living along the Northeast Corridor the past three weeks have pretty much had the same complaint: "What the hell is going on with the weather?"

The month of May has been aggravating and annoying and, yes, Mother Nature threw us all a bone this past Friday, but then quickly threw in a clunker of a weekend.

Well, we are starting off this week with the same funk we have experienced for most of May. With clouds dominating, and as an upper-level storm rotates through the Northeast, we can expect scattered showers and perhaps even a few boomers, especially by Tuesday afternoon.

Now before you go booking your flight to Fairbanks, Alaska — yes it's been nicer in Fairbanks than it's been around here — I actually have some great weather news as we move toward the unofficial launch of summer.

Let's face it, it's always a bit of a crapshoot on what to expect on any given Memorial Day weekend in the Northeast. But with this particular upcoming weekend, it looks like we're going to get lucky. All models are indicating that a big warm up will start to arrive here by the middle of the coming week and last through the holiday weekend and even Memorial Day itself.

This is the way I see it for getaway Friday, whether you're heading to the Jersey Shore, the Hamptons, or the capes of Southern New England, we could see a bit in the way of clouds and a scattered shower as a warm front will start to arrive from the southwest.

This front marks the leading edge of a much more humid air mass and with its arrival, I cannot rule out the chance of a few scattered showers or a rumble of thunder. Temperatures on Friday will be close to 80 across the I-95 corridor, and the upper 60s at most shore points.

The holiday weekend forecast: Saturday, Sunday, and Monday, Mother Nature will be dealing sunshine, with temperatures generally in the low 80s away from the coast, and mainly in the low- to mid-70s, before sea breezes kick in and cool off the beaches quickly.

It does not get any better than that on any given Memorial Day weekend. Hopefully by Tuesday of next week everyone will be yapping about what a fantastic holiday weekend it was. If it's not there will be hell to pay. Trust me, I know.

On a side note, we just relaunched Weathersavior.com, check it out @johnbolaris, @weathersavior.

Bolaris' Weather Watch

JOHN BOLARIS
@weathersavior

Philadelphia

Monday: Mostly clouds, few scattered afternoon showers, 72

Tuesday: Scattered showers and storms, 73

Wednesday : Sun, warm blast, 84

Thursday: Sun to clouds warm, 85

Friday: Warm/more humid scattered showers or storm, 80

Weekend
Saturday: Sun, more humid, 85

Sunday: Isolated inland storm, 85

Monday: Sun/clouds Inland storm, 85

Jersey Shore will see temps in the low- to -mid-70s before cooling sea breezes.

Keeping it dry for Saturday, Sunday and Monday. However a bit unsettled for Friday. Water temperature will be 57 degrees.

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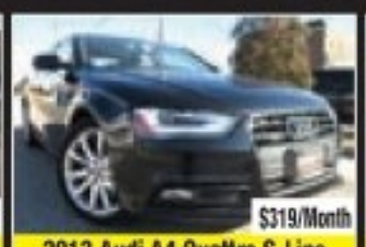
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Welcome America! 4th of July fest concert lineup announced

The 2016 lineup features a number of major Philly acts.

JENNY DEHUFF
@RuffTuffDH
jenny.dehuff@metro.us

Wawa Welcome America! has announced its star-studded lineup for the 2016 Fourth of July concert on the Ben Franklin Parkway.

The eight-day fest, which runs June 27 through July 4, highlights America's independence and everything Philly — from history to culture to entertainment.

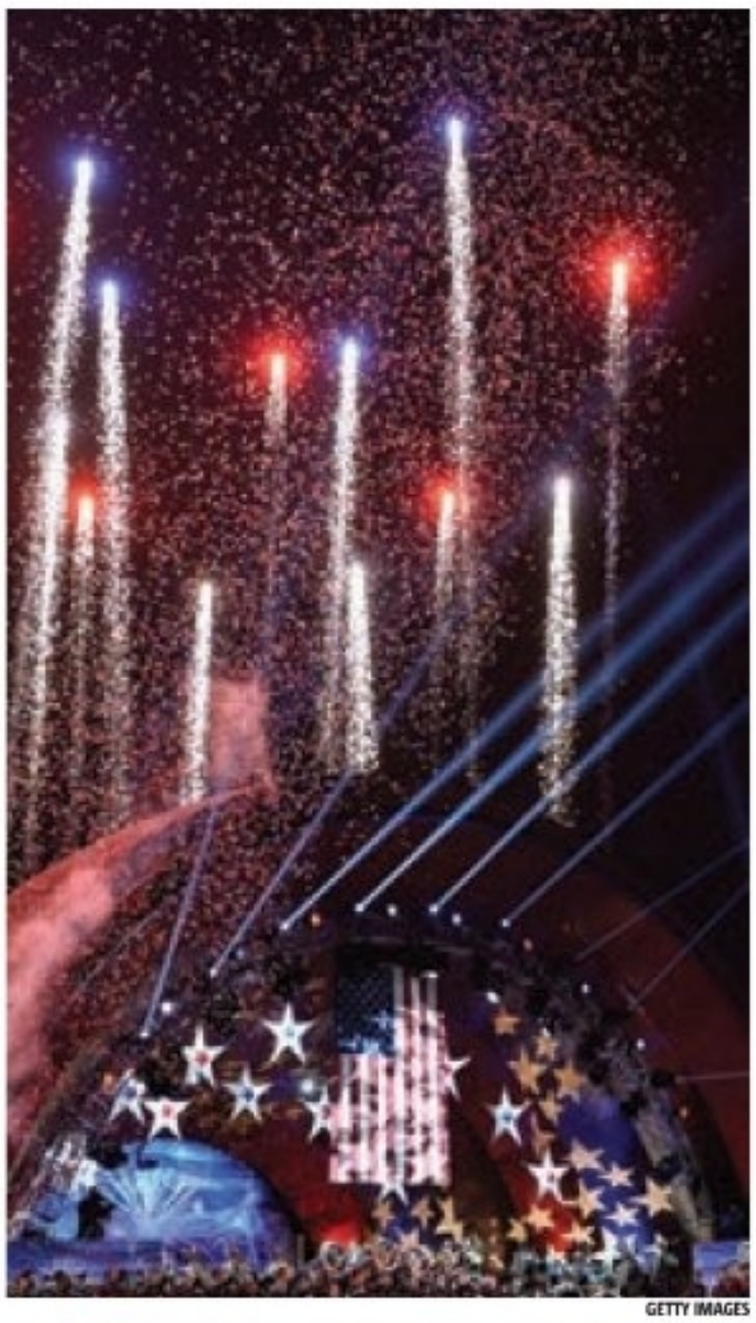
This year's event promises to feature more live music than ever before, with free, live performances by West Philly Tony-nominated and award-winning actor and musician Leslie Odom Jr.; Yazz the Greatest, star of the Fox hit TV series "Empire"; Brotherly Love, the five-member a cappella group of Philadelphia fame; the "Sound of Philadelphia" by music icons Gamble & Huff, with performances by The O'Jays, Harold Melvin's Blue Notes and The Intruders with the Urban Guerrilla Orchestra; and the Philly Pops return with "Pops on the Parkway," featuring their 65-piece orchestra.

During a Friday press conference from the Independence Visitor's Center, Mayor Jim Kenney and Comcast and Wawa top executives came together to announce the details of this year's festival. Kenney said he was proud to welcome the 350 performers along with a total of "100 hours of fun" in Center City. All events are free and open to the public.

"I wanted the vision of Welcome America! and the festival to be inclusive, because that's the spirit of our country and of Philadelphia," said Kenney.

"I think this year's festival will be fun for all neighborhoods and generations and I'm excited that, for the first time, the concert on the 4th will be broadcast in Spanish. I'm also excited that our musical acts are representing a very wide range of genres and that all our acts have strong Philadelphia ties."

Fireworks shows will go off over the Delaware River on July 1, 2 and 4. For more information on the festival, go to Welcomeamerica.com.



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SugarHouse Casino recently completed a multi-million dollar expansion that includes a new poker room, food court, parking garage, added slots, and a high rollers area. ALL PHOTOS CHARLES MOSTOLLER

SugarHouse Casino in Philadelphia grows bigger ... and more sophisticated

At dusk on a recent Monday, Hugo's Frog Bar & Chop House — a white-linen chain steakhouse with roots in Chicago — soft-opened in its new home at Fishtown's SugarHouse Casino to a crowd of an invited guests.

As executive chef Terry White's thick rib eyes and petite filets flew out of Hugo's newly anointed kitchen, the buzz heard throughout the dining room was deafening: What do you think about SugarHouse's $164 million expansion, and how will its new, intended level of sophistication change its game?

On May 9, the ribbon was cut on that expansion which first broke ground in July 2014, one that, as designed by Cope Linder Architects of Philadelphia, increased SugarHouse's 108,000 square feet to 260,000 with additional gaming areas (44 new table games, 289 new slots, a 28-table poker room). In addition to Hugo's, non-gaming amenities include an event center (featuring performances from the likes of "Daily Show" host Trevor Noah and ex-Eagles member Don Felder), Geno's Cheesesteaks, Saxbys Coffee, Tacconelli's Pizzeria, and more.

All this, and there's a seven-story, nearly 600,000-square-foot parking garage — all to the delight of SugarHouse General Manager Wendy Hamilton, its CEO Greg Carlin and everyone involved in the expansion since the casino was first awarded a gaming license in 2006.

"When they were licensed, SugarHouse had a plan in place to construct a casino (opened in 2010), monitor market conditions, then decide when to expand facilities to suit customers' needs," says Doug Harbach, director of communications at the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board.

The watchful eye over all Pennsylvania casino business including Parx in Bethlehem, Valley Forge Casino in King of Prussia and the currently-stalled Live! Hotel & Casino project at 900 Packer Avenue in South Philadelphia's stadium district, states that everything went according to Hoyle when it came to expanding SugarHouse.

"Just like its original structure, the plans for extension were reviewed by the board and hearings were held throughout the community successfully," Harbach says. "We don't just hold hearings in boardrooms. We go into the community; hear from the public about how effectively the casino is operating there."

To date, SugarHouse is being a good neighbor as well as a good local business.

Community groups such as Penn Treaty Special Services District, the African-American Chamber of Commerce of PA, NJ, & DE, Delaware River Waterfront Corporation, Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce, Fishtown Action and the Philadelphia Fancy Brigade Association of Mummers — all voted "for" a license renewal and expansion hearings between 2011 and 2015.

"Indoor parking helped — that was extremely beneficial — as was new food outlets, conference rooms and the possibility of additional jobs," says Harbach.

He noted that, since March 2016, Live! Casino in South Philly has been "on hold, due to litigation," after its parent company, Stadium L.L.C. and its application to operate a casino hotel (which was appealed by SugarHouse HSP Gaming L.L.P.) was sent back to the PGCB by the state Supreme Court to more closely inspect the company's ownership structure. "Nothing new to report," says Harbach, who refuses to comment on what could be an outcome regarding Live!. A.D. AMOROSI

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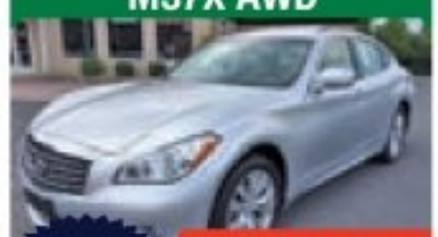
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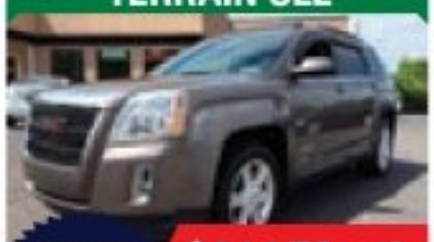
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AWD $409/Month

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XM Satellite Radio $181/Month

2013 NISSAN MAXIMA

Moon Roof $272/Month

2009 NISSAN MURANO SL

Rear View Cam $226/Month

2010 BUICK ENCLAVE CXL

AWD $242/Month

2012 VW PASSAT SEL

Sun Roof $196/Month

2013 HYUNDAI SONATA

Keyless Entry $211/Month

2014 MAZDA 5

Like New! $199/Month

2011 INFINITI G25X AWD

Rear View Cam $242/Month

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‘Wishmaker’ on a mission to bring happiness to Philadelphia

Permanent “Wish-wall” unveiled in Italian Market asking people with struggles to share their wishes.

SAM NEWHOUSE
@scnewhouse
sam.newhouse@metro.us

Call her the Wishmaker.

As masses packed the Italian Market Festival on Sunday to cheer on competitors attempting to climb the infamous greased pole, Simonetta Lein was unveiling the permanent installation of her brainchild, the Wishwall, on the wall of a historic Di Bruno Brothers cheese shop.

“You’ll be amazed by how small things can make people so happy,” said Lein, a 33-year-old Italian immigrant. “A wish is an earthly way to have a piece of heaven. That’s what gives me strength to persevere.”

Lein made waves after installing the Wishwall in the Italian Market during Pope Francis’ visit for the World Meeting of Families in September 2015. There, she met the family of Theresa Pozzi, who was killed in a hit-and-run a year ago, who wished for help finding Theresa’s killer.

Within three months, Lein helped secure the funding to install a billboard offering a reward over the dark Northeast Philly road asking for witnesses to come forward. The case remains unsolved.

“These people basically became my family,” Lein said. “She was my age. I could have been her.”

Simonetta Lein, “the Wishmaker” and founder of the Wishwall Foundation, by the new permanent Wishwall installation at 9th and Hall streets in the Italian Market. MARIA YOUNG

Now Lein is looking for a new wish to grant and asking people facing struggles in their lives to come forward so she can try to help them.

Most of the wishes posted on the Wishwall during the Italian Market Festival came from children.

“I wish for everyone who had cancer to get better,” one wrote. Another wrote, “I wish education is available to everyone.”

Lein said she was particularly struck by a message from a child whose father is struggling with drug addiction. “I wish there’d be more help for drug addicts,” they wrote.

“It’s not impossible to do big things, but let’s start somewhere,” was how Lein described her philosophy of working on granting individual wishes. “Do something concrete in your home, your community. It’s already a big step.”

Lein’s career includes work as a novelist and a fashion ambassador, but her passion is the Wishwall Foundation — which became a 501(c)(3) nonprofit last July. She invites people to share their wishes, either online or on physical “wishwalls,” and then works to grant them.

The concept of the Wishwall came to Lein after writing her first novel, “Everything is Possible.”

“I realized how wishes are actually possible,” she said. “For most people, it’s something they keep in the drawer. They’re afraid to take it out.”

Raised Catholic but now a Buddhist, Lein decided to settle in the East Falls neighborhood of Philly after marrying an American who was living in Italy. Raised by a licensed homeopathic doctor father and a psychotherapist mother, she sees her work as an evolution of their professions.

Lein is now working on a column for Marie Claire Italy about socially conscious fashion, and developing a TV show about her work granting people’s wishes.

“Life is like a party. If somebody is not happy, the party is a flop,” Lein said, quoting the singer Andrea Bocelli. “We can’t solve everything, but we can start from the people we know.”

“I really hope the people keep trusting me to bring their stories to the world.”

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Man sues Airbnb over alleged discrimination in Philly

In 2015, a Virginia resident was rejected by an Airbnb host in Philadelphia, he says, because of his race.

JENNY DEHUFF
@RuffTuffDH
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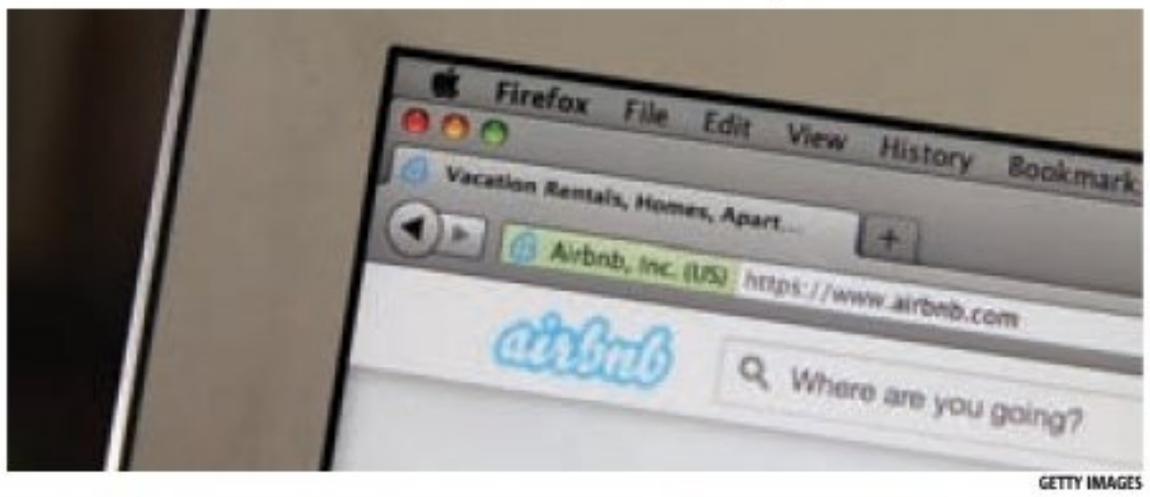

GETTY IMAGES

A man looking for a place to stay in Philadelphia is now suing Airbnb claiming the house-sharing website facilitated racial discrimination against him.

In March 2015, 25-year-old Virginia resident Gregory Selden, who is black, wanted a place to stay in Philadelphia but was rejected by an Airbnb host, according to Jezebel. That same host, though, accepted requests from two fake profiles depicting white men that Selden set up after his rejection.

"Although the individual was renting a private home — people would say, 'Can't you do whatever you want with your private home?' — the fact is that he opened it up to the public," legal analyst Steve Benjamin said to Virginia's NBC12. "And the law is, once you do that, you're not allowed to discriminate."

Selden's lawsuit, beginning with a complaint filed this past Tuesday in Washington, D.C., accused Airbnb of denying him "full and equal enjoyment" of its services based on his race, CNN Money reported. His suit seeks class action status as other similar stories have been reported on social media with the hashtag #AirbnbWhileBlack.

"We recognize that bias and discrimination present significant challenges, and we are taking steps to address them," an Airbnb statement was quoted by NBC12. "Profile photos are an important part of our community and are one of the many tools that help hosts and guests connect with one another."

Earlier this week, Airbnb sent Selden an email asking to arrange a phone conversation with him, NBC12 added, also stating that after his Airbnb ordeal, Selden instead booked a hotel room in Philadelphia.

Jon and Tracey Stewart adopt Lily, the 'Paintball Pony'

Former "Daily Show" host Jon Stewart is stepping up to help adopt a pony that was shot with a paintball gun over 125 times and abandoned at a sale stable earlier this year, Lancaster Online reports.

Stewart and his wife Tracey run a sanctuary for animals in New Jersey that will be the home for the "paintball pony," now named Lilly by SPCA workers. Lily is reportedly being rehabilitated at the Omega Horse Rescue & Rehabilitation Center in Airville.

"I don't think we could ask for better," the center's director, Kelly Smith told LancasterOnline. "She'll be living the life of Reilly. She'll be well cared for, and she'll never want for anything again."

Philip Price Jr., 65, of East Providence, Rhode Island, was convicted Friday on three counts of animal cruelty charges, one count of dealing and handling animals without a license, and one count of importing animals without an interstate health certificate.

He must pay $3,056 in fines and $10,178 in restitution for the horse's recovery. CHRIS CAESAR

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Obama arrives in Vietnam, seeks to turn old foe into new partner

Four decades after a war with Vietnam that deeply divided opinion in America, Obama aims to boost defense and economic ties with the country's communist rulers while also prodding them on human rights, aides say.

President Barack Obama disembarks from Air Force One after landing at Noi Bai International Airport in Hanoi on Sunday. GETTY IMAGES

President Barack Obama arrived in Vietnam late Sunday ahead of a three-day trip aimed at sealing the transformation of an old enemy into a new partner to help counter China's growing assertiveness in the region.

His visit has been preceded by a debate in Washington over whether Obama should use the three-day visit starting Monday to roll back an arms embargo on Hanoi, one of the last vestiges of wartime animosity.

That would anger China, which resents U.S. efforts to forge stronger military bonds with Beijing's neighbors amid rising tensions in the disputed South China Sea.

But in the hours ahead of his arrival in Hanoi, where he was greeted on a red carpet by foreign ministry officials, there was no immediate word of a final U.S. decision on the ban.

Vietnam's poor human rights record is a sticking point, but the Obama administration appears increasingly swayed toward giving Hanoi some leeway to build its deterrent against Beijing.

Obama's visit follows what the Pentagon called an "unsafe" intercept by Chinese fighter jets of a U.S. military reconnaissance plane over the South China Sea on Tuesday.

"Nobody has any illusions," said Evan Medeiros, Obama's former top Asia adviser. "This trip sends important signals to China about U.S. activism in the region and growing U.S. concern about Chinese behavior."

Vietnam's government earlier this month said lifting the embargo would show mutual trust and that buying arms from its partners was "normal".

There has been much excitement about Obama's arrival in a country with a young population enthusiastic about closer U.S. ties, and resentful of Vietnam's economic dependence on its unpopular neighbor China.

"Obama visit to Vietnam is closure of the past," said Hanoi cyclo driver Vu Van Manh. "What's important is the present. The two countries can bond more to develop both economies."

As a sign of the capitalism that now thrives in Vietnam, some opportunistic businesses are using pictures of a smiling Obama to sell suits and instant photo services. REUTERS

Suspect in Massachusetts cop killing is dead

News sources say the suspect believed to be behind Sunday morning's fatal shooting of an Auburn police officer is dead.

The sources tell WCVB an officer was wounded during the encounter. The source said the officer had a minor injury. This occurred as police were searching a home on Watch Street in Oxford.

Ronald Tarentino, a 42-year-old officer in Auburn, was fatally shot around 12:30 a.m. EDT in the town, which is approximately 50 miles west of Boston.

The shooter fled the scene in his vehicle, according to police.

In an advisory released by Massachusetts State Police and shared by police departments on Twitter, authorities said Jorge Zambrano, 35, was wanted for questioning in connection with the shooting.

The bulletin said Zambrano should be considered armed and dangerous.

Video taken by local television news outlets showed dozens of officers lining the road as Tarentino's body was transported from a hospital to the medical examiner's office in Boston.

Tarentino was taken to UMass Medical Center in Worcester where he was pronounced dead. He was 42 years old and is survived by his wife and three children.

Tarentino joined the Auburn police department in May of 2014 after previously working at the Leicester Police Department.

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TIME TO TOUCH GLOVES

TOM FOREMAN
Opinion
CNN's Tom Foreman is the author of the new book "My Year of Running Dangerously."

Bam! After months of warming up in the primaries, we're finally seeing the first real punches thrown in the general election. Get the cut man. Here are my three things to watch this week in politics.

1. IT'S A LEFT, IT'S A RIGHT
Already Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump have called the other unfit to be president. Each has accused the other of hiding things. And each has alienated millions of voters. I'm feeling better about the government already. Maybe not. Anyway, I think it's going to get a lot nastier and fast. Camp Clinton clearly believes their best line of attack is to focus on his weaknesses with female voters and his utter lack of governmental experience. Team Trump's strategy can be summed up in the two words he keeps slapping on her: Crooked Hillary. Stay tuned ...

2. THAT BERNING SENSATION
Meanwhile, if Clinton looks like she's staring at a Rubik's cube that's because she is. The relentless campaign of Bernie Sanders, the raucous behavior of his followers and their accusations that the Democratic Party is cheating to help her win are all giving her fits. And it is not clear what she can do about it. She wants him out of the way so she can focus on Trump, but every time she even hints at that, Sanders' fans howl. Still, watch for her to take another stab at winning them — maybe even a little praise for the senator from Vermont — because time is running short, and you know what they say about a divided house ...

3. VEEPSTAKES
And of course, the D.C. crowd is now turning to its second favorite guessing game: figuring out who will be on the undercard. This week you can expect that discussion to pick up steam with chatter about running mates who might deliver swing states, voting blocks, evangelicals, minority groups and independents. Listen, have fun, and ignore it. No one really knows anything yet and honestly, running mates rarely make much difference.

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Egypt sends robot submarine to help plane crash search

Ships and planes scouring the sea north of Alexandria have found body parts, personal belongings and debris from the Airbus 320, but are still trying to locate the black box recorders that could shed light on the cause of the crash.

Egypt has sent a robot submarine to join the hunt for an EgyptAir plane which crashed in some of the deepest waters of the Mediterranean Sea with 66 people on board, President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi said on Sunday.

Sisi said that underwater equipment from Egypt's offshore oil industry was being brought in to help the search.

"They have a submarine that can reach 3,000 meters under water," he said in a televised speech. "It moved today in the direction of the plane crash site because we are working hard to salvage the black boxes."

An oil ministry source said Sisi was referring to a robot submarine used mostly to maintain offshore oil rigs. It was not clear whether the vessel would be able to help locate the black boxes, or would be used in later stages of the operation.

Air crash investigation experts say the search teams have around 30 days to listen for pings sent out once every second from beacons attached to the two black boxes. At this stage of the search they would typically use acoustic hydrophones, bringing in more advanced robots later to scan the seabed and retrieve any objects once they have been found.

Relatives and friends of EgyptAir hostess Yara Hani (portrait), who was onboard Flight MS804, mourn during a ceremony at a church in Cairo. GETTY IMAGES

EgyptAir flight 804 from Paris to Cairo vanished off radar screens early on Thursday as it entered Egyptian airspace over the Mediterranean. The 10 crew and 56 passengers included 30 Egyptian and 15 French nationals.

French investigators say that the plane sent a series of warnings indicating that smoke had been detected on board shortly before it disappeared.

The signals did not indicate what caused the smoke or fire, and aviation experts have not ruled out either deliberate sabotage or a technical fault, but they offered early clues as to what unfolded in the moments before the crash.

"Until now all scenarios are possible," Sisi said in his first public remarks on the crash. "So please, it is very important that we do not talk and say there is a specific scenario." REUTERS

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Former Megadeth drummer dies after collapsing during Los Angeles gig

Nick Menza, a former drummer for the heavy metal band Megadeth, died at age 51 after collapsing on stage at a Los Angeles club late on Saturday, a family spokesman said on Sunday.

Menza collapsed while performing with his current band OHM at the Baked Potato club in Studio City, California, where he lived, said family spokesman J. Marshall Craig, who is also Menza's biographer.

The band had been performing its third song of the first set late on Saturday when Menza collapsed, Craig said. Audience members and friends tried to resuscitate him until medics arrived, but Menza died in an ambulance en route to a local hospital after 25 minutes of resuscitation attempts.

"Despite his excellent health and extremely active, sober lifestyle, a heart attack is his suspected, though not confirmed, cause of death," Craig said. An autopsy will be performed, he said.

Nick Menza GETTY IMAGES

Menza was the longest-serving drummer for Megadeth from 1989 to 1998, a period when the band was considered at its height, Craig said. He recorded drums and toured on the albums "Rust in Peace," "Countdown to Extinction," "Youthanasia" and "Cryptic Writings."

Menza was asked by Megadeth co-founder Dave Mustaine to join the band in 1989, after first playing live with the group the year before in Bradford, England, according to Menza's website.

Halfway through a 1998 tour, Menza discovered a tumor on his knee and was forced to leave for surgery. Megadeth hired a replacement and Menza was not asked back, the website said.

In an upcoming memoir, Menza has nothing but praise for his former bandmates, including Mustaine, and considered himself fortunate to have been a part of a legendary band, Craig said.

He had been playing in OHM, which included fellow Megadeth alumnus Chris Poland, for more than one year after various solo stints, Craig said.

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Kanye West broke Ellen

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

It's been a hot second since we've had a good old fashioned Kanye West diatribe, but luckily he has an innate sense for what the world is lacking. To put us all at ease, West dropped by "The Ellen Show" for an eight-minute, fittingly bizarre stream-of-consciousness "interview" that left Elle DeGeneres pretty much speechless. "I'm sorry, daytime television. I'm sorry for the realness," he offered. While he took time to address his more eyebrow-raising tweets, the Oscars diversity issue, the state of hip-hop and how he wants to team up with discount shoe retailer Payless to help combat bullying, perhaps his more salient point was about how all our criticisms and jokes are just getting in the way of West achieving his full potential. "We got 100 years here. We're one race — the human race — one civilization. We're a blip in the existence in the universe and we're constantly trying to pull each other down," he said. "I feel I can make a difference while I'm here." By all means, sir.

the word

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Fans not down with Leo's jet usage

Leonardo DiCaprio is a busy man. He was hanging out in Cannes last week, living it up, but then he had to be in New York to received an award honoring his environmental efforts and then be back in the South of France for an AIDS gala. So what did he do? What any sensible elite movie star would: hop on the old private jet to whisk yourself to NYC and back. But that travel itinerary is apparently rubbing some fans the wrong way. "Everyone saying he's some hero for protecting the environment," one fan wrote on his Instagram post from the gala. "He's just a hypocrite." Another concurred, posting, "Unfollowing [DiCaprio]. Practice what you preach." I guess that's what you get for trying to help, Leo.

A surprise turn in the Affleck-Garner split

What's the opposite of Ben Affleck and Jennifer Garner divorcing? How about calling off the breakup and getting back together to welcome a fourth child? Crazy, right? And yet: "Friends are expecting an announcement very soon that Jen is pregnant," a source tells Radar Online. "Jen has played Ben like a fiddle. She was determined to make him 'walk the plank' over his wild ways. She believed he would come to his senses and they could save their marriage. She's always wanted another child with him. Even since they split, she's gushed publicly about how he is the love of her life." Man, some people just don't know how to break up.

DAILY VIDEO

@SCHMOYOHO/YOUTUBE

Trump goes hard

Want to see something that's oh so very Internet in every possible? The wonderful tunesmiths at Fine Bros. took that hard-to-watch Donald Trump/Meghan Kelly interview and turned it into a boastful bit of rap, which almost — almost! — makes the GOP front-runner palatable. Did you know that he goes hard? Apparently, he does. Especially when it comes to balloon animals.

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Katy Perry makes relationship Instagram-official

So I guess we all know for sure that Katy Perry and Orlando Bloom are a thing – assuming the past few months of their international make-out tour weren't evidence enough. No, Perry went and confirmed the coupling with a cute Instagram post, because once you put it on social media, you know it's real. The singer posted a pic of the two sprawled out on the steps of the Hotel du Cap Eden-Rock in the South of France, decked out in fluffy robes and swimwear. The photo bore the pun-friendly caption, "We Cannes't," so you know they're going to be one of those "jokey" couples. Great. You all have fun with that, I'll just see myself out.

@JuddApatow
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What lies ahead for Giovanni's Room

Philly AIDS Thrift received a $10K award from the IBA to further support a new chapter for Giovanni's Room, one of the oldest LGBT bookstores in the country.

BILL CHENEVERT
@MetroPhilly
letters@metro.us

Roy DeLaMar is shown far right. JPG PHOTOGRAPHY

A $10,000 award to a nonprofit from the Independence Business Alliance (IBA)? It is so, and for good reason. Philadelphia's de facto Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce has awarded its PNC Bank LGBT Business Award to Philadelphia AIDS Thrift, and it is mildly unprecedented.

Previous awards have gone to a fitness business (in 2012 to Unite Fitness), retailers (Metro Men's Clothing in 2013), bars and restaurants (Gold Standard Café in West Philly in 2015 and Rittenhouse's Stir Lounge last year), but this one's exceptional in part because it honors the legacy of Giovanni's Room in Center City. Giovanni's Room, one of the very last standing and longest-running LGBT bookstores in the entire country, was kept afloat when Philly AIDS Thrift intervened last year.

"Even though Amazon is the big goliath, there are plenty of people who want to support an LGBT business, especially a business like ours where proceeds go to supporting HIV and AIDS organizations," Philly AIDS Thrift board member Roy DeLaMar told us. "IBA saw value in what we do obviously, which we appreciate. In the 10 years we've been open we've donated $1.5 million to organizations in the Delaware Valley. They saw our model working and they wanted to invest in it."

"[They] laid out a plan to bolster future viability and growth of their second location, Philly AIDS Thrift @ Giovanni's Room, by taking their online business to scale," said IBA Executive Director Zach Wilcha.

It's true — AIDS Thrift proposed a very specific use for the $10,000 — and that's paying special attention to AIDS Thrift @ Giovanni's Room's Web presence, Queerbooks.com's ease of use, and optimizing its SEO. It's not the sexiest use of money, DeLaMar agrees, but it is necessary in 2016.

"Once upon a time there were LGBT bookstores in every city," DeLaMar laments, citing the beacons like Chicago's Women & Children First and the late, great Oscar Wilde Bookshop in the West Village.

When Philly AIDS Thrift took over Giovanni's Room, they honored Ed Hermance's book-loving legacy by keeping much of the shop's focus on new and used books. Courting Web business was never his forte. Philly AIDS Thrift, on the other hand, has nearly cornered the market on converting kind donations into a profit.

"[We're] a unique model. Yes, we're a nonprofit operating in the healthcare arena, but we're not a service provider," DeLaMar says, pointing out that AIDS Thrift regularly brings confidential and rapid HIV-testing stations to customers at its own expense. "We're the best of both worlds and our numbers are active, our books are clean, and it's been that way since the beginning," says DeLaMar. "We're a well-run, successful business that does incredible good with our profits. I can't think of a better model."

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Russell Crowe finds

The key to comedy, the "Nice Guys" star says, is not trying too hard.

MATT PRIGGE
@mattprigge
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Ryan Gosling and Russell Crowe play a P.I. and an "enforcer," respectively, who team up to solve a crime in Shane Black's "The Nice Guys." WARNER BROS. PICTURES

Russell Crowe has had few chances to show he's funny. But though "The Nice Guys" is a comedy — and a mystery and a thriller — he never goes overboard trying to make you laugh. His character, the brutish "enforcer" Jackson Healy, is the straight man to Ryan Gosling's bumbling, girl-shrieking P.I., Holland March, both of them caught up in a violent and often ridiculous missing-person case in 1970s Los Angeles. The latest from Shane Black — who helped birth the modern buddy action comedy with his script for "Lethal Weapon" — it does give the Oscar-winning actor, now 52, a chance to snarl some sour one-liners, and wear some silly clothes.

Do you tend to think about how your characters dress? For instance, was that loud blue jacket Jackson Healy wears your idea?

You always want to be involved in that. You always have to think about practical considerations. So I actually stole that blue leather jacket off Ryan's costume rack. They had that jacket for him, but he was about five minutes late for the costume fitting. I put it on and it fit me, so I put it on my costume rack. I only confessed that to him last night, actually. I love that jacket. I told him, "You shouldn't have turned up late."

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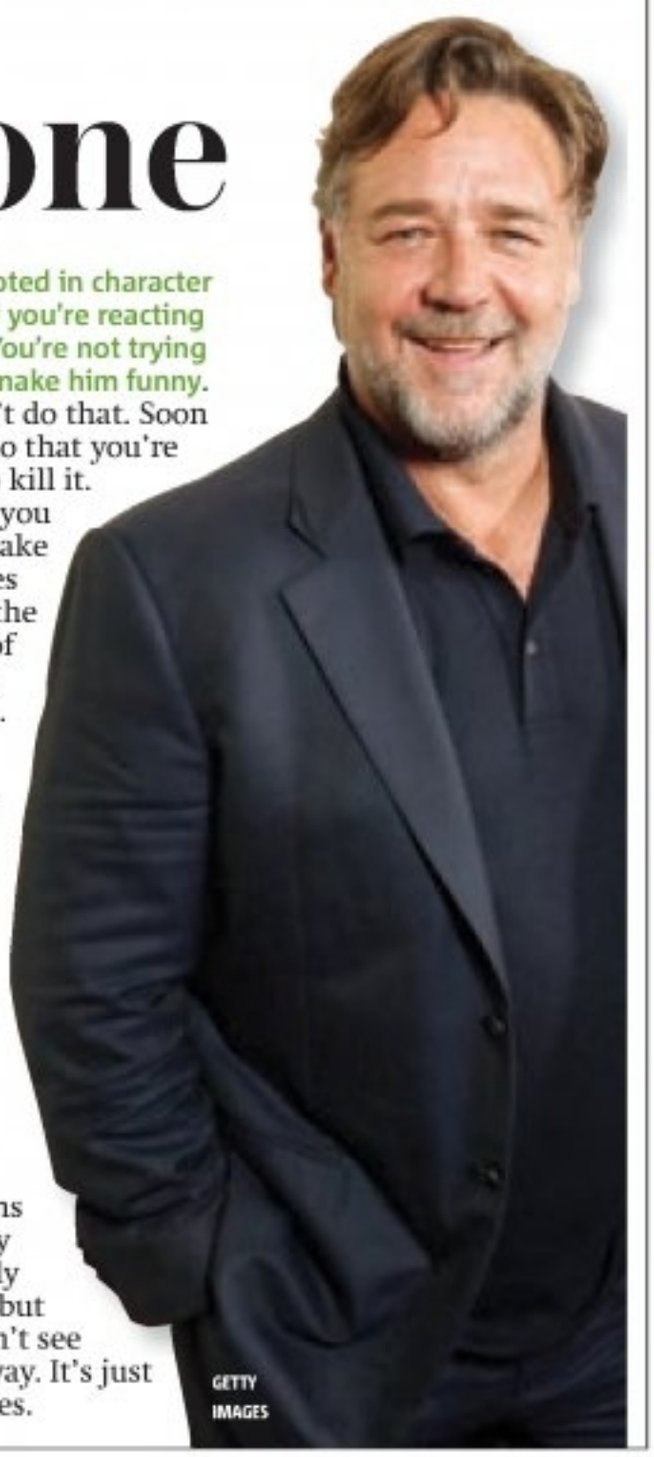
his funny bone

He mostly wears that one costume through the movie.
I didn't really think he was that complicated in that area. I didn't think he had that many shirts, that many jackets. So we just shrunk it down to a few things. The way I thought about Healy is that he comes from a service background, most likely the Navy. We see the house he lives in. Where most people will have 10 of one thing, he'll have one. His space is sparse and the shelves are empty. He can walk from the bedroom to the front door in one linear line, pick up what he needs and be gone. I think those things shaping the character is as important as any aspect of him.

Even the place he lives in gives you insight into who he is as a character.
I thought it was a stroke of brilliance that Shane Black had him living in an apartment above a comedy club. He would sit there, not hearing what was being said but hearing the laughter coming upstairs. That's such a strange and beautiful thing. [Laughs]

You haven't done a lot of comedies. But you and Ryan do have a classic comedy duo set-up: One is very funny and the other is the straight man.
The two of us looked back through the history of film and glommed onto things we could bring to the fore. One of the decisions Shane made quite early, which we went with, was making sure there was a physical difference between us. Quite often in duos — Bing Crosby and Bob Hope, Abbott and Costello, Laurel and Hardy — there's a physical difference.

Still, Gosling gets most of the physical comedy. When you're funny it's more rooted in character and how you're reacting to him. You're not trying hard to make him funny.
You can't do that. Soon as you do that you're going to kill it. Soon as you try to make it a series of gags the nature of the film changes. It has to be organic and it has to come from a place of deep belief. These characters are in situations that may be deeply absurd, but they don't see it that way. It's just their lives.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How to flirt over text (and not freak out)

Put down that book — don't seem digitally unavailable! ISTOCK

One of my clients recently handed over her phone so I could read her text exchanges with a match. "He ghosted on me," she said. But when I viewed their messages, the reason he ghosted became clear — she was acting digitally unavailable.

In a world where we text instead of call, even small miscommunications via text can cost you dates. Here are three texting must-haves so you don't lose out on any date nights.

Focus on connecting and planning — equally

The best text flirting involves both. Think about it: If you try to get to know someone without meeting IRL, you may waste your time writing all those texts and never go on a date.

But similarly, if you try to skip directly to the date, you may not build up a strong enough connection to have a great time in person. If you haven't met, nudge your match offline after about 20 to 30 messages back and forth. Don't be shy!

Or if you've already met, send a "thank you" text post-date to keep the text string open and continue connecting.

If the other person doesn't mention another date within a week, go for it yourself.

LAURIE DAVIS EDWARDS

Single and Swiping

Laurie Davis Edwards is the founder of eFlirt, an online dating concierge service, and the best-selling author of "Love @ First Click: The Ultimate Guide to Online Dating."

Don't fear silence

Often, my clients freak when their text doesn't get a reply. They say, "She/he must not be interested anymore," or conclude the person ghosted. But not every text needs a reply.

It's possible the conversation came to a natural close, especially if you didn't ask a question. Sending a second message is OK after a few days. Make sure the person had enough time to reply to the first, and then include a question so it clearly calls for a response.

Let "real time" communication be real time

With my client I mentioned, the lag time between messages was the issue – it took her more than 24 hours to reply!

Don't strategize your reply time – just respond when you see a match's message. Having a digital conversation in real time is powerful, so you both want to meet up face-to-face sooner.

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WXPN will play Bob Dylan all day tomorrow

The music icon is celebrating his 75th birthday.

MIKE FENN
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Bob Dylan holding a bass guitar during his 1966 tour. GETTY IMAGES

Tomorrow marks the 75th birthday of one of the most treasured singer-songwriters in the history of modern music: Bob Dylan. To mark his unique accomplishments, WXPN 88.5FM is devoting an entire day of programming to the living legend.

"There's no doubt that Bob Dylan is the most important singular singer-songwriter of all time," Bruce Warren, WXPN's assistant general manager of programming, says. "His impact on musicians, popular culture and the arts, and matters of social, cultural, and political importance, is unparalleled."

A special edition of "World Cafe Live at Noon" will feature Mason Porter and friends performing Dylan's signature brand of mellow yet influential music from upstairs at World Cafe Live. The show will be free of charge and reservations can be made on the WXPN website.

David Dye will continue the festivities from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. on World Cafe with guest bands discussing and playing their favorite Dylan music. The Many Moods of Ben Vaughn will wrap things up from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. with a special edition of the show featuring all-cover versions of Dylan's songs.

Finally, in between its special programming, WXPN will, of course, play Dylan's music on both its FM station and streaming site at xpn.org. The tribute will total 13 hours, so expect to hear everything from "Like a Rolling Stone" to "Under Control," no matter when you're tuning in.

The times may be a-changin,' but Bob Dylan is timeless.

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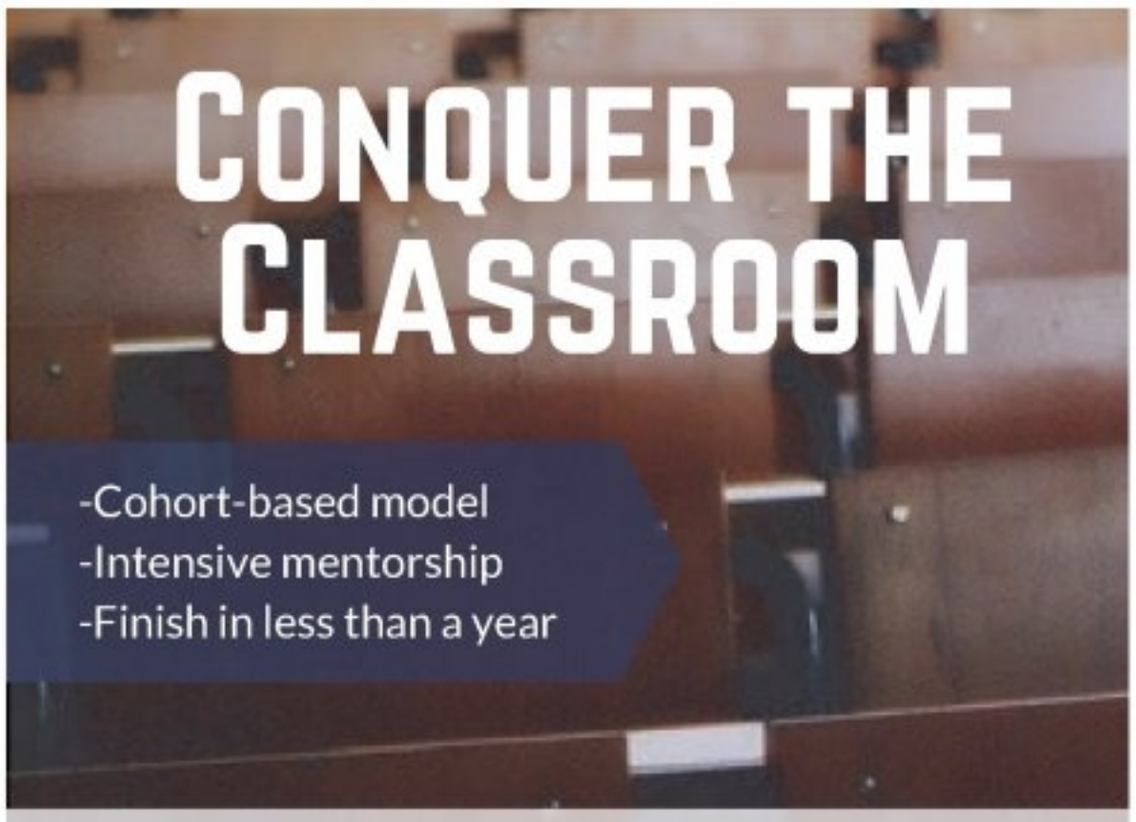

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Why meditation makes you more productive than multitasking

Stressed out? Frantic? Mindfresh wants you to take a breather — without leaving your office.

ALIZAH SALARIO
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Your inbox is full. Your desk is cluttered. Your phone is ringing. Your brain is fried. And it's not even lunch — which you usually skip, anyway.

What if you could press the reset button? Get out of that swivel chair and stretch that body scrunched like an accordion, then close your eyes while a soothing voice coaxed, "inhale on 'just,' exhale 'breathe.'" And why, yes, that is sandalwood and lime you smell, therapeutic scents to help lift your mood.

In our always-on, hyperproductive office culture, this is a workplace fantasy. It's also a standard 30-minute session from Mindfresh, a company that strives to boost office productivity and help workers destress by, well, refreshing minds.

In New York and San Francisco, Mindfresh's two outposts, startups and large corporate firms are bringing in teachers (holistic practitioners and yoga instructors) to lead 30-minute workday sessions.

Each Mindfresh session consists of mindful movements — stretches for releasing the neck and shoulders, where many people hold tension and anxiety — and breathing exercises to help quiet the mind and focus attention. Sessions take place in conference rooms or even deskside. No workout clothes required.

As workplaces spiral toward peak digital burnout, we're experiencing a bit of a productivity backlash, says Mindfresh cofounder Jen Kluczkowski, who launched the company over two years ago.

"People will put 'I'm a great multitasker' on résumés. But there's a lot of different research showing that if you do five or six different things at one time, you make so many errors, it's done carelessly, you have to go back and redo things, other people have to correct you. So now there's more of a shift toward 'How do we train our brains to do one thing at a time again with total attention?" says Kluczkowski.

The benefits, says Kluczkowski, are hard to quantify, but people generally leave sessions feeling more focused and with greater clarity.

Still, it's not uncommon for many high-powered employees to actually be paranoid about taking breaks — for fear of not seeming busy *enough*.

"There's this concern that if we do need a reset, if we're feeling overwhelmed and frantic and not like we're producing your best work, if you're to step away from your desk and actually do something like meditate, how are you going to look and be perceived by your coworkers and bosses? Everyone is terrified to do it," she says.

But corporate culture isn't turning into Burning Man. Companies are drawn to the practice as means of "performance enhancement" that boosts productivity in the long run. The concept is right in New Yorkers' wheelhouse because it's "a city full of overachievers."

"People want to be the best at everything they do," says Kluczkowski. That includes being mindful.

Negotiating for higher pay isn't ruthless — it's how to do business

Why should a successful actress who asks for equal pay draw comparisons to her cutthroat "House of Cards" character?

ALIZAH SALARIO
@Alirosa
alizah.salario@metro.us

"House of Cards" star Robin Wright made headlines after revealing that she negotiated for a salary equal to that of her co-star Kevin Spacey. Kudos to her, right?

Right — except for one thing, says Katie Donovan, an equal-pay consultant and public speaker.

"I hate every single headline that said, 'Claire Underwood would be proud.' They're basically saying, for you, average Jane, to get ready to negotiate you need to be a woman who literally killed people, had affairs and is considered a witch among witches to be able to pull it off," says Donovan, referencing the Machiavellian maneuvers of Wright's character, Claire Underwood. Donovan is all for Wright negotiating equal pay, but comparing her tactics with those of her conniving character sends the wrong message to women."Negotiating is just how business is done," she says.

Here are Donovan's three tips for negotiating a salary or promotion.

Do your research

"Sixty percent of people working in the private sector have some kind of pay secrecy in place," says Donovan. Find out the market rate for your position by researching pay averages on sites like Salary.com, Payscale.com and GlassDoor.com. You'll find out not just where you stand in comparison with your colleagues, but also how your company measures up to industry standards, says Donovan.

Focus on impact, not aptitude

The biggest negotiation error most people make is focusing on how good they are at their job, instead of their impact on the bottom line.

"Using Robin Wright as an example, she didn't talk about the number of scenes she was in, or the amount of dialogue she had. She didn't talk about what she actually did. She was talking about her *impact*. So for an employee in most companies, our impact is we're either saving the company money or making the company money," says Donovan.

When negotiating, Donovan suggests attaching monetary value to each job duty: "You could be a grocery store bagger. If you know how to bag using less bags, that saves the company money."

Robin Wright
GETTY IMAGES

Negotiations start at "no"

Before you sit down at the table, know this: "You are absolutely going to be denied — it's meaningless," says Donovan. "The first offer is the first offer, not the best offer." There's a laundry list of reasons employers use to turn down a request for a raise, so when you get that first no, keep going. But that's where many women often back down.

"We [women] have a tendency to talk ourselves down a few notches. It's unfortunate," says Donovan, who acknowledges negotiating isn't easy. "But the more women are doing it — negotiating with their employment — the more normalized it's going to be."

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What to make of Phillies after season's one-quarter mark

Here are the four most interesting conclusions a fan can make after the first fourth of baseball this spring.

KYLE PHILLIPPI
@MetroPhilly
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A week ago, general manager Matt Klentak said that the quarter mark of the 162 game schedule is a good time to gauge where a team is heading.

After their weekend series with the Atlanta Braves — one that went as well as the weather outside — the Phillies find themselves one-fourth of the way through their season.

Going with what Klentak said, let's take a look at what direction this Phillies squad is going.

1 Their competiveness will keep them relevant

This is the biggest difference from last year's roster to this year's. The Phillies have a never-say-die attitude. They have found a way to account for their offensive holes by not knowing when to throw in the towel. That's why the Phillies have found themselves in almost every game this season and why they own an MLB-best 14-3 record in games decided by one run.

2 The bullpen is better than expected

This is one thing many people didn't see coming. During spring training, the running joke was that the bullpen was going to be a never-ending carousel of arms this year with a next-man-up approach. That's been the complete opposite so far. After a few hiccups in the first series, the bullpen has buckled down and become a stable commodity. They have a 9-4 record, which is second best in baseball, and have struck out a whopping 137 batters going into Sunday. That number is among the top 10 in baseball.

3 A trade deadline deal could happen now

It's still a few months away, but the Aug. 1 trade deadline could see some minor activity from the Phillies. This won't be at the expense of mortgaging the future; don't expect them to ship out any top-tier prospects in an effort to win this season. Klentak could very well have interest in acquiring an outfield bat or another bat off the bench that will help down the stretch but will cost very little. If the Phillies are either atop the division or within a few games, a very small deal could be done.

4 A positive logjam could occur in outfield soon

Right now, the Phillies have a consistent outfield between Odubel Herrera, Peter Bourjos and Tyler Goeddel. Pete Mackanin will have some decisions to make when Cody Asche returns from his current rehab assignment. There's even hope that Aaron Altherr — who would have been an Opening Day starter — could return a little sooner than expected from his wrist surgery, which gave him a four to six month recovery back in early March. By the deadline, the Phillies could be trotting out an outfield of Herrera, Goeddel and Altherr, with Asche providing a bat off the bench and Bourjos providing his speed.

Odubel Herrera has emerged as one of the best hitters in the big leagues through one quarter of the season. GETTY IMAGES

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Which Phils' prospect will be called up to the big leagues next?

It's almost time for the Phillies to see what they have down on the farm.

ZANE STALBERG
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Two months into the season, the Phillies are the league's biggest surprise. As a result, their youth movement has begun way before even the most optimistic fans could have imagined. After Philadelphia called up Tommy Joseph last week, many have begun to wonder which of the Phillies' other prospects may be up next. Here is a list of the possible candidates:

Jake Thompson

Thompson is considered by many to be one of the most major-league ready prospects in Philadelphia's farm system, and he may get to prove that within the coming weeks. After a shaky start, the 22 year-old has allowed just four earned runs in his last 27 innings pitched, and has struck out 20 batters in that same span. Thompson, who has been starting in the minors, could be used to replace Adam Morgan in the starting rotation or to help solidify a bullpen that ranks in the lower half of the league.

J.P. Crawford

Crawford, the Phillies' highly touted young shortstop, put up slightly lackluster numbers at the Double-A level this year. In 36 games, he hit just .265 and committed seven errors. However, his .398 OBP, and advanced approach at the plate convinced the Phillies' brass that he had outgrown Reading, so he was recently promoted to Triple-A. The 21-year-old still needs work with the glove, so the Phillies will be hesitant to rush him. But, now that Philadelphia is in contention Crawford may out-grow Lehigh Valley by the time the All-Star break rolls around.

Jorge Alfaro

Cameron Rupp has been serviceable in his role, but Alfaro's numbers have become hard to ignore, and he will inevitably force Philadelphia's hand if he continues to dominate. The young catcher is hitting .358 with two homeruns and 16 RBI, while throwing out 46% of base runners. The front office may test him out at Triple-A first, but expect to see Alfaro sooner rather than later.

Phillies' fans can't wait to see what J.P. Crawford can do in the majors GETTY IMAGES

Zach Eflin

If Thompson does not get the call from the Phillies, Eflin will be the one who does. Eflin has been groomed as a starter his entire career, unlike Thompson, so he will only get an early call if Morgan continues to drop off. However, the young right-hander has been exceptional, posting a 5-0 record, to go along with a 2.36 ERA and is right on the cusp of Philadelphia's rotation.

Andrew Knapp

Considering Philadelphia recently called up Joseph, Knapp, who is a similar player, may not be up until the rosters expand later on in the season. However, if Joseph struggles, Knapp could find his way on to the roster much sooner, due to his proven bat. The Phillies rank 29th in both homeruns, and runs scored, and could use the six home runs and 19 RBIs that Knapp has totaled in just 32 games.

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ESETT is a research study designed to try to save and improve the lives of people who experience established status epilepticus (ESE). Emergency department care of patients with a long-lasting seizure in the US is not the same everywhere. Doctors use their judgement, but what treatment will work best is not known. This study plans to look at three commonly used medicines given in the emergency departments for ESE: fosphenytoin (fPHT), valproic (VPA), and levetiracetam (LVT) to learn which treatment is most effective at stopping a seizure quickly.

Normally, researchers get permission before a person can be included in a study. A person having a seizure will not be able to give consent. Since a seizure that will not stop on its own must be treated quickly, there will not be enough time to locate and talk to the person's legal representative about the study, so the person will be enrolled in the study without his/her legal representative's consent. This is called "Exception from Informed Consent" (EFIC).

ESETT is occurring in the Emergency Departments of the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, Penn Presbyterian Medical Center, and Pennsylvania Hospital. If you would like more information about the study or would like to decline participation, please go to our website or contact us by e-mail or phone. We would be happy to answer questions you have.

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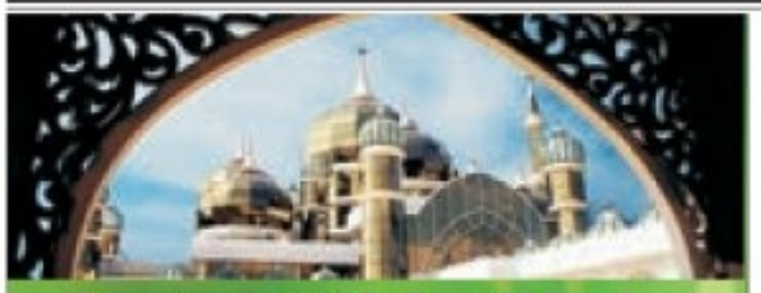

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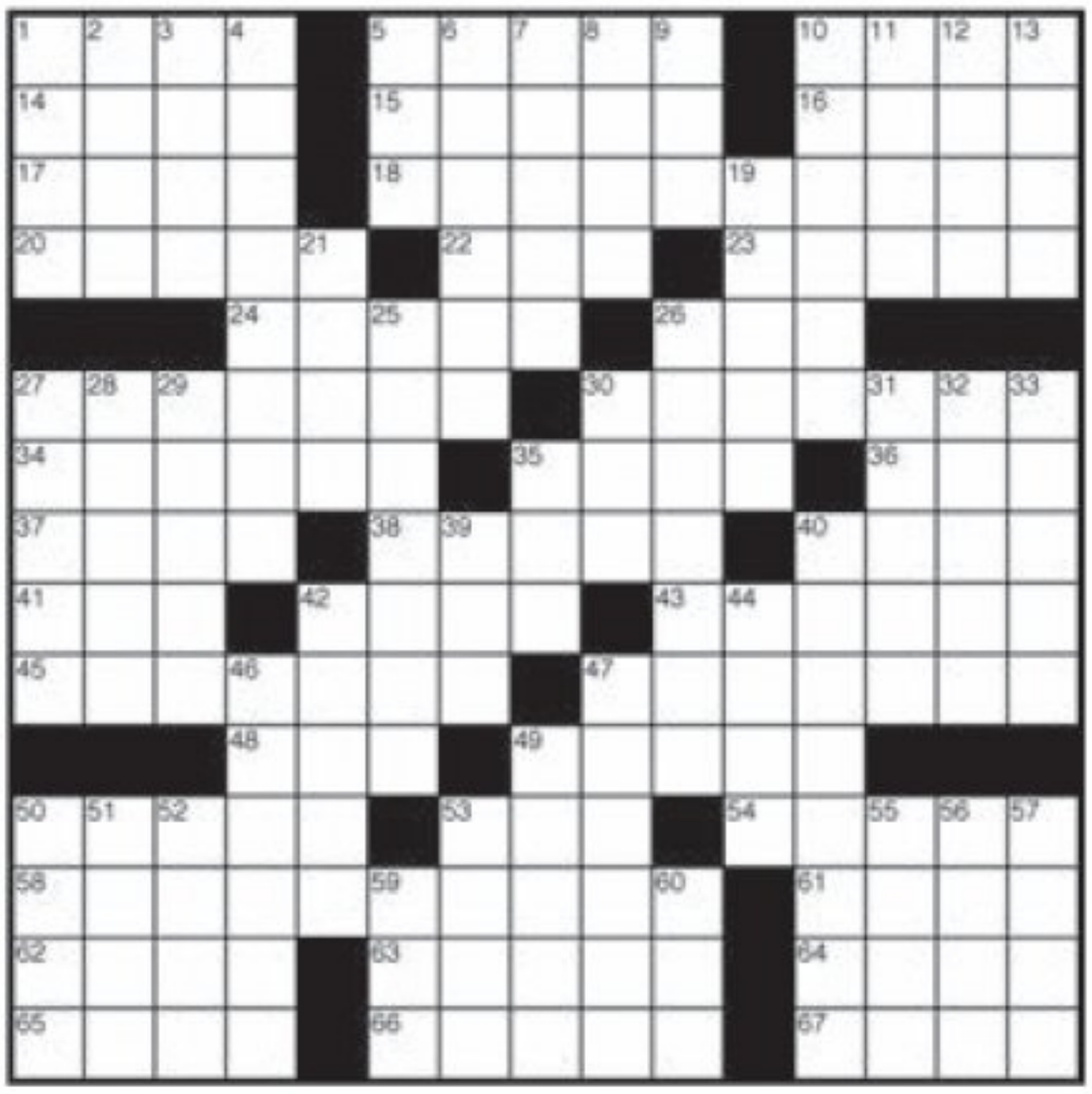

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Taurus Expand your knowledge and interests, and do your best to make new acquaintances. Talks will help you impress someone who can point you in a lucrative direction.

Gemini Hidden matters will cause anxiety. Use your time wisely and focus on health, finances and expanding your interests. Stay in control, be patient and follow your own path.

Cancer Live in the moment and gravitate toward the people and projects that intrigue you the most. Don't be afraid to step outside your comfort zone.

Leo Engage in activities that pump up your energy and enthusiasm. Give your all and seek out new ways to present a fine-tuned persona. Relatives both young and old will offer incentives.

Virgo You'll discover valuable information if you participate in functions that involve your interests or your colleagues. A change in your financial situation is apparent.

Libra Keep your personal business to yourself. Explore new techniques or methods that will encourage a change of location or help you find a pastime you'd like to pursue.

Scorpio Protect your position, reputation and important partnerships. Put your efforts into personal development and making positive changes to the way you live.

Sagittarius Don't rely on secondhand information. Travel will lead to delays. Stretch your thinking in order to discover something unique that will improve your relationship with others.

Capricorn Share your ideas for home improvements and investments that will affect those close to you. Plan an intimate evening or a trip that will give you something to look forward to.

Aquarius Keep your mind set on things you can do to make your personal and professional lives better. A change will do you good and will give you a revived desire to reach your goals.

Pisces You'll face emotional interference and discord when dealing with people who are literally or figuratively close to you. Don't let anyone pressure you into getting involved. EUGENIA LAST

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